

B-3321 - B-3333  
4-48 E. Cross St. (North side)  
Baltimore, Md.  
Private access

1850-1867

The pair of houses at 4-6 E. Cross St. was originally built as a pair of two story plus attic, two bay wide brick houses with gable roofs, but 4 E. Cross St. has been enlarged and is now three stories in height with a shed roof and bracketed cornice. 8 E. Cross St. is a small, two story, gable-roofed house typical of the type built on nearby Patapsco St. in the 1850's. 10 and 12-38 E. Cross St. are all three story, two bay wide, brick houses with gable roofs that serve a mixed commercial/residential purpose. The houses were built both just before and just after the Civil War by John S. Gittings and George Williamson, who each built alternating pairs of similar houses. 26-28 and 38 E. Cross St. have had their original gable roofs rebuilt as shed roofs and 38 E. Cross St. has a bracketed cornice. 46 E. Cross St. is a three story, two bay wide brick house with shed roof and bracketed cornice whose first floor area is currently being converted to a shopfront. 48 E. Cross St. is a two story, two bay wide, brick house with shed roof and bracketed cornice which has recently been converted to modern shopfront space.

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-3325  
MAGI 0433252511

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

14-16 E. Cross St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

#### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

#### PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

B-3325

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ UNALTERED (16)  
☒ ALTERED (14)

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This pair of three story, two bay brick houses with gable roofs was built in the 1850's, ~~some years~~ earlier than the neighboring gable roofed houses. The facade of 14 Cross has been covered with formstone and the first floor area converted to serve as a local bar, in conjunction with 12 Cross St.

The houses are three stories in height, 14 1/2' wide, and occupy lots 73' deep. Each house is two rooms deep and has a two story high, one bay wide and deep stair hall extension which connects the main house to a one story high, five bay deep later addition which extends all the way to the alley to the north. The houses are constructed in running bond but 14 Cross has been covered with formstone. The low-pitched gable roof has a two-tier brick cornice. There is a paired double hooded chimney located along the partition wall between the two houses on both the front and rear roof gables.

All of the door and window openings originally had flat wood lintels and brick header sills. The lintels and sills of 14 Cross are now hidden by the formstone covering, but the originals are intact at 16 Cross. All of the window openings at 14 Cross are filled with 1/1 double hung sash; at 16 Cross the first and second floor windows are filled with 1/1 sash but the third floor windows are filled with 6/6 sash. The first floor area of 14 Cross currently serves as a local bar, in conjunction with 12 Cross. There is a modern glass and aluminum door centrally located and flanked by two small octagonal windows. At 16 Cross a double, late Victorian glass and panel door is set beneath a wide single light transom which has been covered with siding. Both entrances are reached by one stone step. Each house has a large basement opening with metal cover located in the sidewalk beneath the first floor window. A flat-roofed alleyway runs between the two houses.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1852-1858

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John S. Gittings

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

These houses are significant as being representative of a large group of such three story, gable-roofed houses built in the 1840's and 1850's in the area immediately surrounding the Cross St. Market (founded 1846) to serve as combination commercial/residential structures, as they do today. The first floor area served as a store-front and the family lived on the floors above. Many such houses have separate street entrances to the private family quarters. Buildings of this type served the needs of a growing community which was attracting an influx of small shop-keepers to provide goods and services for the local residents.

This pair of houses, and neighboring houses at 22-24, 30-32, and 38 E. Cross St. were built by John S. Gittings, an active local builder and developer, as part of his development, along with George W. Williamson, of this side of Cross St. Gittings and Williamson acquired the large lot running along Cross St. between Patapsco and Marshall Sts., and north to Poultney St., in 1835, along with the lot to the south where the Cross St. Market now stands.<sup>1</sup> In 1845 they subdivided the lot, each taking alternating, double parcels along Cross St. Gittings began to build on his lots in the 1850's, but both builders apparently were interrupted by the Civil War in the completion of their projects, and the row of houses was not completed until 1866.<sup>2</sup> Williamson leased his houses to individual owners, but Gittings retained his property for rental income, and the houses did not leave the Gittings family until 1896.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Baltimore City Land Records, Liber TK 251, Folio 23

<sup>2</sup>Ibid., Liber AWB 353, Folio 44

<sup>3</sup>Ibid., Liber JB 1647, Folio 385

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 14'6" x 73' each**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struener Bros. & Eccles5/79

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

RuxtonMaryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

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5T

5

PATAPSCO

POULTNEY.

ST

LIGHT

ST.

B-3325  
E. CROSS

## NOTICE

THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED  
FOR ARTICLE 201 OF THE CITY CHARTER.

DEPARTMENT  
BUREAU  
PROP  
WARD 2



B-3325  
14-16 E. Cross Street  
Block 0935A Lots 027-026  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.







B-3325      14-16 E. Cross St.

M.E.H.      5/79

South elevation